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- 8. (Amended) A cell driving type actuator according to claim <u>15</u>1, wherein the surface roughness Rt of the wall surfaces of the piezoelectric/electrostrictive elements is approximately 10 μm or less, said <u>piezoelectric/electrostrictive</u> elements facing one another and forming said cells.
- 9. (Amended) A cell driving type actuator according to claim 151, wherein thea width of the comb-like-piezoelectric/electrostrictive elements varies from a recess to the front end of the comb-toothpiezoelectric/electrostrictive elements.
- 10. (Amended) A cell driving type actuator according to claim <u>115</u>, wherein thea spacing <u>distance</u> between the adjacent piezoelectric/electrostrictive elements forming <u>at least one of said cells is different from a spacing distance between piezoelectric/electrostrictive elements forming at least one other cell., or the spacing between said cell and the adjacent cell has at least two different values.</u>
- 14. (Amended) A use of a cell driving type actuator as a liquid discharging device: said actuator whereincomprising a plurality of piezoelectric/electrostrictive elements are arranged in alignment like teeth of a comb on a base plate and extending perpendicularly therefrom, wherein side walls of each piezoelectric/electrostrictive element are formed by firing only said actuator is a piezoelectric/electrostrictive actuator being driven by means of dislocation of piezoelectric/electrostrictive elements,

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE Amended claims Appl'n No.: 09/888,048

wherein each a plurality of cells is are formed independently from one another its adjacent cells by joining top portions of closing respective planes being positioned between two adjacent piezoelectric/electrostrictive elements and facing the base plate with respective cover plates to define the cells and wherein, each of said cells is being used as a liquid pressurizing chamber, and said piezoelectric/electrostrictive elements are displaced by applying a driving electric field thereto in the same direction as the polarization field of said piezoelectric/electrostrictive elements, thus deforming to deform said liquid chamber, thereby enabling to enable a liquid filled in said liquid chamber to be discharged in the direction of the front end of the piezoelectric/electrostrictive elements elements.comb teeth.

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SUMMARY OF THE DISCLOSUREABSTRACT

A piezoelectric/electrostrictive actuator <u>including</u>wherein a plurality of piezoelectric/electrostrictive elements are arranged like teeth of a comb-in teeth-like

3 alignment on a base plate, saidand the actuator being driven by the displacement of thesaid piezoelectric/electrostrictive elements. A cell <u>is</u> formed by closed a plane facing said base plate and being positioned between two <u>by</u> adjacent piezoelectric/electrostrictive elements extending upwardly from the base plate and having with a cover plate joining top portions of the adjacent piezoelectric/electrostrictive elements. The cells are is formed in such a manner that <u>each cell</u> it is independent <u>from of its</u> adjacent cells. Activation with a higher field strength is possible, and a greater displacement can be realized with a weaker field strength.